standing officers in the interests of administration.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

New technology for sending telegrams and telegraphic money order in Madhya Pradesh

511. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 4532 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 31st March, 1992 and state:

(a) whether Government have decided to establish stations for the purpose of sending telegrams and telegraphic Money Orders in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the number of such stations that are likely to be established in Madhya Pradesh?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYANAIDU): (a) and (b) Facilities already exist to send telegrams at 40855 Combined Posts & Telegraph Offices, 717 Telegraph Offices and 131 Central Telegraph Offices in the country. Telegraphic money orders booked and transferred from post offices are at present transmitted through the existing telegraph network. However, to modernise the telegraph network 45 micro processor based store and forward telegraph systems have been introduced into telegraph network, Electronic key boards, electronic key board concentrators, PC based formatted terminals and electronic teleprinters have also been used in telegraph network.

There is also a plan to establish satellite money order system in 75 locations spread over the country.

(c) In the State of Madhya Pradesh 4 Store and Forward Telegraph systems one each at Bhopal, Jabalpur. Indore and Raipur have already been installed and commissioned. The same will be upgraded to store and forward message switching systems of 32 lines capacity during the VIIIth Five Year Plan period. In addition 500 electronic key boards will also be installed during the VIII th Five Year Plan period to improve quality of telegraph services.

Although some locations in Madhya Pradesh will be covered under the satellite money order systems, it is too premature to indicate number of exact locations in the State now.

Smuggling on the Indo-Myanmar Border

512. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that smuggling of drugs and gold is now on the increase in the Indo-Myanmar border; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the steps taken to check smuggling in the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Available reports indicate that the Indo-Maanmar border continues to be sensitive to smuggling of Gold and Narcotic Drugs. However, since smuggling is a clandestine activity it is not possible to say whether such smuggling is now on the increase. The quantities of gold and narcotic drugs (of South-East Asian origin) that have been seized in the Indo-Myanmar sector of the land border in the last 4 years is given in the table below:

	1989	1990	1991	1992 (upto June)
Heroin Qty (in Kg.)	20	9	12	4
Gold Qty (in grams)	539	627.04	..	27

(b) The anti-smuggling agencies remain alert against smuggling. The anti-smuggling drive has been intensified and close co-ordination is maintained between all the agencies concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling. Recently, a Regional Unit of the Narcotics Control Bureau has been opened in Imphal.

Protection to bank depositors against security scam

513. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking any steps to ensure that bank depositors do not suffer due to security scam and liquidation of two banks; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House, to the extent available.

Tax reliefs announced since passing of budget

514. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of relaxation by way of tax relief announced till date since the budget was passed in the interest of manufacturers, exporters; businessmen and the rich people; and

(b) what are the reasons for extending such benefits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) The tax reliefs given till 10th July, 1992 after the Finance Bill, 1992 was enacted on 14th May, 1992 amount to Rs. 162.42 crores for customs and Rs. 321.40 crores for central excise in a year. Of the same, the major reliefs are in respect of automobile and TV industries as these are passing through a difficult phase and to the pharmaceutical industry

भारतीय स्टेट बैंक के सहयोगी बैंकों का विलय

515. **श्री राम नरेश यादव :** क्या **वित्त** मंत्री 3 दिसम्बर, 1991 को राज्य सभा में तारांकित प्रश्न 168 के दिये गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारतीय स्टेट बैंक के सहयोगी बैंकों का कुछ अन्य बैंकों में विलय किए जाने के बारे में विभिन्न संगठनों के साथ बातचीत पूरी कर ली गयी है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है और इन सहयोगी बैंकों का विलय कब होगा ; और

(ग) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) का उत्तर "नहीं" है, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री दलबीर सिंह) : (क) से (ग) वित्तीय प्रणाली के ढांचे, संगठन, कार्य-करण और प्रक्रियाओं से संबंधित सभी पहलुओं की जांच करने के लिए श्री एम० नरसिम्हम की अध्यक्षता में सरकार द्वारा गठित वित्तीय प्रणाली से सबधित समिति ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ बैंकिंग प्रणाली की पुनर्संरचना के बारे में कुछ सिफारिशों की हैं । इस संबंध में अभी तक कोई निर्णय नहीं लिया गया है । तथापि, समिति ने भारतीय